AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

21. (Currently amended) An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a polynucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of:

(a) an isolated polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide comprising amino acids 1 to 343 of SEQ ID NO:24 including the start codon;

(b) an isolated polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide comprising amino acids 2 to 343 of SEQ ID NO:24 minus the start codon;

(c) an isolated polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide comprising amino acids 146 to 241 of SEQ ID NO:24;

(d) an isolated polynucleotide which represents the complimentary sequence of (a), (b), (c), or fragment thereof; and

(e) a polynucleotide capable of hybridizing under stringent conditions to any one of the polynucleotides specified in (a)-(d), wherein said polynucleotide does not hybridize under stringent conditions to a nucleic acid molecule having a nucleotide sequence of only A residues or of only T residues, and wherein the stringent conditions comprise hybridizing in a buffer comprising at least 1xSSC at a temperature of at least 42°C and washing in a buffer comprising at least 0.3xSSC at a temperature of at least 65°C.

22. (previously added) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 21, wherein said polynucleotide is (a).

23. (previously added) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 22, wherein said polynucleotide comprises nucleotides 23 to 2154 of SEQ ID NO:23.

24. (previously added) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 21, wherein said polynucleotide is (b).

25. (previously added) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 24, wherein said polynucleotide comprises nucleotides 26 to 2154 of SEQ ID NO:23.

26. (previously added) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 21, wherein said polynucleotide is (c).

27. (previously added) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 26, wherein said polynucleotide comprises nucleotides 436 to 723 of SEQ ID NO:23.

28. (previously added) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 21, wherein said polynucleotide is (d).

29. (previously added) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 21, wherein said polynucleotide is (e).

30. (previously added) A recombinant vector comprising the isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 21.

31. (previously added) A recombinant host cell comprising the vector sequences of claim 30.

32. (previously added) A method of making an isolated polypeptide comprising:

(a) culturing the recombinant host cell of claim 31 under conditions such that said polypeptide is expressed; and

(b) recovering said polypeptide.

33. (withdrawn)

34. (previously added) The isolated polynucleotide of claim 21 wherein said nucleic acid sequence further comprises a heterologous nucleic acid sequence.

35. (previously added) The isolated polynucleotide of claim 34 wherein said heterologous nucleic acid sequence encodes a heterologous polypeptide.

36. (previously added) The isolated polynucleotide of claim 35 wherein said heterologous polypeptide is the Fc domain of immunoglobulin.

37. (previously added) An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a polynucleotide having a nucleotide sequence at least 60.0% identical to a sequence provided in claim 21, wherein percent identity is calculated using a CLUSTALW global sequence alignment.

38. (previously added) The isolated polynucleotide of claim 37 wherein said nucleic acid sequence further comprises a heterologous nucleic acid sequence.

39. (previously added) The isolated polynucleotide of claim 38 wherein said heterologous nucleic acid sequence encodes a heterologous polypeptide.

40. (previously added) The isolated polynucleotide of claim 39 wherein said heterologous polypeptide is the Fc domain of immunoglobulin.